

BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND VOTER REGISTRATION OF JASPER COUNTY

BOARD MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 15, 2018

PRESENT: Chairman Joseph Arzillo; Vice Chairperson Pamela M. Williams; Mr. Carl Tyler; Mr. Rodney Catterton; Ms. Carrie Fair; Mrs. Regenia Scott; Mr. John Kemp; Mr. Timothy Crosby; Mrs. Denise Davidson and the Director Ms. Jeanine Bostick.

ABSENT: None.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Arzillo.

INVOCATION: Mr. Crosby

Pledge Allegiance by all.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motioned by Mrs. Scott and seconded by Mr. Tyler to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 9, 2017: Motioned by Mr. Kemp and seconded by Mrs. Scott to approve the minutes from the last Board meeting. Motion carried unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No Comments.

OLD BUSINESS: Locked Office Doors (Mr. Rodney Catterton): Mr. Catterton gave his opinion on the doors being locked. Mr. Crosby suggested Jasper County Sheriff Department coming out to do an assessment of security for the office.

Handling of Complaints (Mr. John Kemp): Mr. Kemp asked for any objections or concerns regarding his guideline on handling of complaints. No discussion. Mr. Kemp stated if there any comments to please email your comments to him before the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Discussion and Approval of the 2018-2019 Proposed Budget: The Board discussed the proposed budget and some adjustments were made. Motioned by Mr. Crosby to approve the proposed budget, seconded by Vice Chairperson Williams. Motion carried unanimously. A planning committee was selected to discuss a five year plan for refurbishment of the voter registration office. Vice Chairperson Williams would Chair this committee; Chairman Arzillo; Mr. Kemp and the Director will be a part of this committee.

Motion on Motion Procedures (Mr. Kemp): Mr. Kemp stated he would like to propose to the Board to reconsider submitting motions in writing; copies will be given to the board and the Chairman would decide if the motion needs to be discussed at the next meeting for debate. The above was motioned by Mr. Kemp for approval and seconded by Mr. Crosby. (7) Yes, Chairman Arzillo; Mr. Kemp; Mr. Crosby; Mr. Catterton; Mrs. Davidson; Mrs. Scott and Mr. Tyler; (1) Abstain, Ms. Fair and (1) Oppose, Chairperson Williams. Motion carried.

Ad for Voter Registration Drive (Ms. Fair): Ms. Fair stated she would like the board to consider putting an ad in the paper when there is a Voter Registration Drive. A notice stating there is an election coming soon and you have 30 days prior to the election to register.

NEW BUSINESS CONT'D.: Ad for Voter Registration Drive (Ms. Fair): Ms. Fair would also like to see an ad placed on our web page. Ms. Fair will submit a motion in writing to the board for discussion at the next meeting. The Director stated a notice of election is posted in our local newspapers twice at least 60 days prior to any election and again two weeks later. The Director stated this notice is used to inform the community of the next upcoming election and registration deadlines.

SCARE Conference Overview: Mrs. Scott commented the SCARE conference was very informative and she really enjoyed the classes. Mrs. Scott informed the Board in the New Board Member Orientation course it was recommended by the State that board meetings are not be to videoed or audio recorded. The Board Secretary could take hand written notes. The Director stated she sent an email to Chris Whitmire of the State Election Commission office on this matter and will notify the board of states recommendations. Mrs. Scott also informed the board public comments should not be listed on the board meeting agendas. If an individual would like to speak at our meetings that individual would need to request to be put on the agenda. Mrs. Scott stated she would submit a motion on this matter in writing to the board for discussion at the next meeting.

Ms. Fair gave her comments on the SCARE conference. At the conference they talked about **Ballot By Mail**. The state of Utah has closed some of their voting precincts due to low voter turnouts. Voters voted in a referendum to close these precincts and vote ballot by mail only. The State of Utah also provided locked mail boxes at various locations for voters to drop their ballots in. Ms. Fair thought it would be nice to possibly pilot this as an option in Jasper County at those precincts with low voter turnouts. Ms. Fair stated she would submit a motion on this matter in writing to the board for discussion at the next meeting.

The Director informed the board at SCARE during the panel of legislators meeting the SCARE Legislation Committee, the Director stated she also serves on this committee, presented to the panel their top three legislations SCARE would like to consider for change:

1. Removal of the witness signature on the absentee envelopes
2. Open absentee ballots the day before Election Day
3. Allow persons to serve as poll workers from any county in the state of South Carolina

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: The Director informed the Board of the following:

- The City of Hardeeville Ordinance was passed and is now with our County Attorney
- Voter Registration Drive will be held at Bethel Church in Pineland, February 25th at 2pm
- Reminded the Board of their Continuing Certification Education Training
- Meets with Republican Party March 13, 2018, 6:30pm at Palmetto Electric (Hardeeville)
- Meet with Democratic Party TBA at the Wagon Branch Community Center
- Workshop for Poll Workers Coming Soon
- Shared with Board the proof for Banners for the Ridgeland 1 and the Ridgeland 3 Precinct now located at Kingdom Touch Ministries Gymnasium
- Discussion of Front Office Door Security
- Shared and discussed correspondences for our web page

DIRECTOR'S REPORT CONT'D.: Total registered voters: **19,081** as of January 28, 2018.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Chairman Arzillo commented on the written motion idea and felt it was a good idea and asked other board members to keep an open mind.

BOARD ISSUES AND CONCERNS: Poll Workers Committee: Mr. Crosby stated he would like to Chair this committee. Other members of committee: Mrs. Davidson; Ms. Fair; Vice Chairperson Williams; Chairman Arzillo; Mrs. Scott and the Director.

Mr. Kemp asked those board members that attended the new board member orientation course to call Rep. Newton and give their feedback on the course.

Mr. Kemp informed the Board the Unity computer room is now kept locked.

Mrs. Davidson commented on the poll workers application that was sent out, was not the application the board approved. The Director informed the board the memo that was sent to our list of poll workers was a memo asking if they were available to work on the designated election dates and the board approve application is used to recruit poll workers. The Director stated board approve application will be distributed to persons at the workshop the Director would be hosting.

Mrs. Davidson commented on the Director's evaluation coming up.

TOPIC(S) FOR DISCUSSION FOR THE NEXT MEETING:

- Office Assessment of Security (Mr. Crosby)
- Complaint Procedure Guidelines (Mr. Kemp)
- Ad for Voter Registration Drive (Web Page) (Ms. Fair)
- Ballot By Mail (Ms. Fair)
- Taping and Video of Board Meetings (Mrs. Scott)
- Public Comments on Agenda (Mrs. Scott)

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business Mr. Crosby motioned to adjourn, motion seconded by Mr. Kemp. Meeting adjourned at 6:58pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by: Jeanine M. Bostick, Director

cc: File; Board Members; Mr. Andy Fulghum, County Administrator; Mrs. Judy Frank, Clerk of Council and Jasper County Delegation